

Editorial

For our readers, I would like to begin on an apologetic note for the inordinate delay in bringing out this issue.

This particular issue is somewhat special in the sense that all the contributions are from professional science communicators who share their experiences and knowledge on specific areas of their works.

The article 'Science Popularization in India : Historical Initiatives' presents a historical narrative of science popularization activities in this country and emphasizes that an understanding of how motivations and contexts of science popularization change over time can actually help tackle the challenges faced by science communicators today.

'Remembering Ved Prakash Beri' provides a biographical account of one of the pioneers of India's science museum movement and science popularization activities.

India is now on the verge of achieving an unprecedented milestone of being declared a polio free nation. The article 'Global Effort for Polio Eradication: India on the Verge of Being Declared Polio Free' focuses on the history of the development of polio vaccine and chronicles the global efforts for its eradication with special emphasis on India.

Building a popular science exhibition on a socio-cultural theme as enigmatic as the River Ganga is by all means a challenging task. In the article 'The Ganga Gallery: Science Exhibition on a Socio-Cultural Theme', the author provides an interesting narrative of how the topic was dealt with in the exhibition.

The article 'Portrayal of the Present State of Biomedical Science and Technology at Regional Science Centre, Jaipur' deals with the narrative of a science centre gallery that highlights the progress of medicine from prehistoric times to the present day not as a continuum of inventions and discoveries but as discrete steps of shifting paradigms in diverse fields of knowledge.

'Deciphering Human Microbiome', the last article, reviews the human micro-biome project which was launched to decipher the identity and interactions of the microbes that inhabit our body, and provides the readers a general idea about human microbiome and the novel techniques used to identify these microbes and their interactions with the human body.

We hope our readers will find the articles in this issue interesting and useful, and will look forward to their feedback and constructive suggestions.

E Islam
Chief Editor